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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
9 AT SEATTLE

10 BILGEHAN BAKIRCI,

11 Plaintiff,

12 v.

13 THE PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE
14 COMPANY OF AMERICA,

15 Defendant.

CASE NO. C19-0380JLR

SCHEDULING ORDER

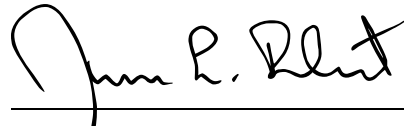
16 Before the court is the parties' joint status report and discovery plan. (JSR (Dkt.
17 # 12).) This case involves a dispute over Plaintiff Bilgehan Bakirci's eligibility for
18 long-term disability benefits under an employee welfare plan governed by the Employee
19 Retirement Income Security Act ("ERISA"), 29 U.S.C. § 1001, *et seq.* (JSR at 1.) The
20 parties state that this case will be decided on the record. (*Id.* at 1.) The court agrees that
21 the "appropriate procedure to resolve this dispute is through a bench trial on an
22 administrative record." *Sammons v. Regence Bluecross Blueshield of Or.*,

1 No. 3:15-CV-01703-SI, 2016 WL 1171019, at *2 (D. Or. Mar. 23, 2016), *aff'd*, 739 F.
2 App'x 385 (9th Cir. 2018); *see also* *Kearney v. Standard Ins. Co.*, 175 F.3d 1084, 1095
3 (9th Cir. 1999) (“[T]he district court may try the case on the record that the administrator
4 had before it.”). Accordingly, based on the representations of the parties regarding when
5 they will be ready to exchange summary judgment or trial briefs (*see* JSR at 4), the court
6 sets the following schedule:

- 7 1. The parties’ initial briefs are due on January 21, 2020;
- 8 2. The parties’ responsive briefs are due on February 20, 2020;
- 9 3. The parties’ reply briefs, if any, are due on March 6, 2020.

10 The parties shall support their arguments with appropriate pin citations to the
11 administrative record and relevant legal authorities.

12 Dated this 27th day of June, 2019.

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15 JAMES L. ROBART
16 United States District Judge
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